

REMARKS

Claims 1-9 remain in the application with claim 1 having been amended hereby and claim 10 having been cancelled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1-4 and 6-10 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Ohta et al. in view of Shinobu et al.

The present invention relates to a system for switching an electronic equipment, such as one typically mounted in a vehicle, from a nonoperating condition to a standby condition and then to a normal operating condition. A control unit is in a standby condition when the vehicle is not in use and can be shifted into the normal operating condition by detecting some event, such as the doorhandle being operated. When the control unit shifts from the standby condition to the operational condition, voltage variations occur and these may also be detected by a voltage detecting element. This detection of the voltage may constitute the so-called use commencement detecting operation. An operation control portion inside the control unit produces a control signal that is fed to the electronic equipment when the control unit shifts from the standby to the normal operating condition. This control signal is used to shift the electronic equipment to the standby condition. A pause control portion in the electronic equipment prevents the electronic equipment from immediately shifting from the standby condition to the normal operating condition until a predetermined pause time has

elapsed.

Claim 1 has been amended hereby to include the pause control feature as described in the specification at page 14, for example, and as previously set forth in claim 10. Claim 10 has now been cancelled. Incidentally, it will be noted that the spelling of "pause" in the pause control feature has been corrected in the specification and the claims.

Ohta et al. relates to a vehicle door lock apparatus employing a remote control unit that provides instructions to lock and unlock the door mechanism. A system is provided for detecting the actuation of the door handle by the user and the remote control unit includes an electrode that establishes a capacitance combination between the remote control unit and the door lock control unit.

Shinobu et al. relates to a system for controlling a display device in a vehicle and determines whether the starter motor is still in operation so that the display device is not turned on until the starter motor has stopped. Once the display is turned on then the global positioning system used in the automobile navigation system is turned on.

As noted hereinabove, claim 1 has been amended to include the feature of the present invention relating to the pause control portion 38 of the electronic equipment 16. This feature was previously recited in claim 10.

In regard to claim 10, the examiner points to column 4, line 66 to column 5, line 19 and Fig. 4 of Ohta et al. as describing this feature. Nevertheless, as will be seen from

the text at column 4 line 66, as well as Fig. 4, that what is being shown in Fig. 4 relates to the remote control unit 10 of Fig. 1 of Ohta et al. Because this embodiment of the presently claimed invention also includes a remote control unit, shown as transmitter 35 in Fig. 1, it is respectfully submitted that not only does the presently claimed invention not involve a remote control unit or transmitter, but also that in the textual portion of the above reference, there is no suggestion of placing the electronic equipment in a pause mode for a predetermined period of time before shifting to the normally operated condition, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 3, 5, and 7 under 35 USC 103, as being unpatentable over Ohta et al. in view of Shinobu et al. and further in view of Hsu.

Hsu is cited for showing a detection means for monitoring a voltage in a personal computer.

Claims 3, 5, and 7 depend from claim 1, which for the reasons set forth hereinabove, is thought to be patentably distinct over the cited references and, for at least those very same reasons, claim 3, 5, and 7 are also submitted to be patentably distinct thereover.

There is nothing in Hsu that would cure the deficiency of Ohta et al. relating to providing pause control portion in the electronic equipment to prevent it from immediately shifting from the standby condition to the normal operating condition

until a predetermined pause period has elapsed, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims.

Accordingly, by reason of the amendments made to the claims hereby, as well as the above remarks, it is respectfully submitted that a control apparatus for controlling an electronic equipment, as taught by the present invention and as recited in the amended claims, is neither shown nor suggested in the cited references, alone or in combination.

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited and it is respectfully submitted that this amendment raises no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search. The amendments made to claim 1 add structure previously set forth in dependent claim 10. Thus, claim 1 in its amended form has already been searched and considered.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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